

BOSTON RECORDER.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1817.

VOL. II.

ous Department.

FOREIGN.

ICELAND.

The Rev. Ebenezer Henderson,
on his visit to Iceland, for the
carrying into effect
the British and Foreign Bible

[Continued from p. 9.]

PART II.

I was convinced from the ex-
periencing contributed so much
to my interest on behalf of
the cause in general, or to prepare
their speedy and proportionate
action, as a personal visit, I de-
cided to proceed along the coasts of
Western Promontory, and the
Peninsula, in order to give
the same advantages
in the other quarters of the
island.

I singly left Reykjavik on the
completely tired of the in-
an Icelandic winter, though
at that place endeavored to
it. I set off a month too
the first person of importance I
Ampmud Stephenson, the
of the west of Iceland,
acquaintance I had formed at
the name at Reykjavik, and
was found on his estate Hvitar-
at the western boundary of the
Syssel. This Gentleman,
of a letter I addressed to
the time referred to, had, in
of the winter, written an offi-
cation to all the Sheriffs
within his province, acquaint-
and the provision that had been
suppling the island with the
God, and directing them to be
their investigation of the state
specie charges by the state
that way. He now re-
in the most polite and affec-
tional; and, on my leaving his
recurred a earnest of the atten-
to be shewn me in passing
this government; for he ac-
me himself, together with
sons, the Sheriff, and his own
all the way to Stafnholz, the
Very R. V. P. Peterson,
there Syssel. On their return
Dan entered into a most lively
interesting conversation with me
the Icelandic Scriptures. Bible
the present state of religion,
be produced the letters re-
his Clergy respecting the
their parishioners, the perusal
assisted by the people to ob-
while I as easily saw that
must remain destitute of
they did not receive them on
on which the blessings
them are offered: "With-
and without price." I there-
alized him, and the Syssel
for making up the full list from
to send to Reykjavik for the
requisites for gratuitous distri-
and requested him to direct
also to that place, as the
asport.

In 19th, I proceeded, in company
with Dean and his eldest son, across
the numerous islands of western Skardshedi,
encountered a rugged volcanic
and rode between several of
them, from which the fire has
on the surrounding regions.
after much fatigue, crossed a
of lava that has proceeded from a
further west, we arrived in
at the Church of Stadhrhra-
instantly took shelter from the
mercury in Fahrenheit's Ther-
laving fallen to 29 degrees.
I found to be a true Na-
could not but admire the pri-
macy and godly sincerity that
though the whole of his deport-
He has the charge of two small
one of which only two copies
existed among fourteen
Hitarale, where we were kindly
by the Clergyman, who, with
company, took the most lively in-
in the accounts I gave them of the
true religion, and the tri-
of the abettors of infidelity.

I visited the Clergymen of Hitar-
who expressed in very lively terms
gratitude for the good deed done
parishioners; and, in their com-
directed my course on the 22d to
stad, where we arrived the follow-
ing at half past five o'clock.
As no copies had yet been forwarded to this
corner of the island, and it was not in
the power of the Sheriff to determine
what number would be requisite, I gave
him and the Dean an order on a friend in
Copenhagen, that they might obtain
some by the next spring ships.

I now retraced my steps into Barda-
strand's Syssel, and, crossing the Pa-
trixford, I spent the 16th at Sandauks-

idea of the wants of his people, he intended the following week to institute an inquiry to that effect.

My next station was the Factory of Stappen, where I met with a kind reception from Mr. Hialltalin, the gentleman to whom the Factory belongs. I was happy to find him disposed to render the Bible cause all the support in his power: and of the copies that had been sent to his care, the greater number had been sold during the winter, and he had since received subscriptions which exceeded the number that remained. My way now lay round the base of the immense ice mountain, called Snaefel's Yokul, which here terminates the promontory. The majority of the inhabitants in this quarter are in circumstances of great poverty, in consequence of their total dependence on the fishery, which has proved very indifferent for some years past. It was, therefore, necessary to make arrangements for larger gratuitous supply than what had been done in the neighboring parishes, as there were multitudes who even had not wherewithal to purchase a morsel of bread. On my progress along the north side of the mountains, I fell in with the Dean of the Syssel, proceeding on a visitation, who could not sufficiently regret my not having found him at home. As he had an appointment to preach the following day, it was entirely out of his power to return with me; but he insisted on riding back a few miles, in my company, which afforded us an opportunity of forming a closer acquaintance with each other; and I was happy to find in him a truly serious and pious man, to whom the news of the universal dissemination of the Scriptures proved a most reviving cordial. He exultingly resolved the event into some grand scheme of Providence, the full development of which was reserved, perhaps, for the astonishment of ages yet to come.

Having visited the Factories of Olafsvik, Gundarford, and Stickesholm, and made the necessary arrangements at each, I proceeded into Dale Syssel, which I found equally destitute of the Scriptures with the other parts of the island. Though the greatest discrimination had been used by the Dean and Sheriff, in making out the lists of the poor, the number of those whom it would be necessary to supply gratis very much exceeded their expectation; and they finding that I allowed them the full complement, and that all the poor would be enriched with the Gospel of the Grace of God.

It was now my intention to have rode through the Syssel of Bardastrand, but though it was the beginning of June, the mountain-roads were still impassable, owing to the immense quantities of snow and ice with which they were covered. I was therefore obliged to leave my horses, and the most of my baggage, on the western boundary of Dale Syssel, and proceed by sea. The first place I landed at was the island of Flatey, whither a considerable number of Bibles and New Testaments had been forwarded the preceding year. It gave me pleasure to be informed, that they had all been some time in circulation, owing to the zealous exertions of the Sheriff, who had not only divided a portion among the numerous islands of Breidafjord, but had conveyed a number to the opposite coasts of Bardastrand, and distributed them as he proceeded to the different Things, or Courts, in the discharge of his official duty. The Clergyman of Flatey shed tears of joy when he told me, that now all his parishioners were in possession either of a Bible or New-Testament.

Re-embarking in the evening of the 9th of June, I pursued my course to the westward; and landing the following day in the Syssel of Bardastrand, I proceeded across the Cataract Mountain, the Friths of Arnar, and Dyra, with the intervening mountains, and arrived on the 13th at the parsonage of Holt, in the Syssel of Isaiford, the most remote on the whole island. I here met with a warm friend in the Rev. Thorvald Bodvarsson, the successful translator of Gellert into Icelandic verse. It being impossible for me to reach the Dean, on account of the snows, I contented myself with paying a visit to the Sheriff, who lived close by, at a place called Hiarddale, he received us very courteously, and I was pleased to observe the ingenuity with which he had laid the plan of distribution with the Dean, keeping the circumstance of the copies to be given gratis a profound secret, till they had secured all who were able and willing to subscribe. In the mean-time they had made up a private list of the poor, which it was designed to compare with the returns, when these were all sent in. As no copies had yet been forwarded to this corner of the island, and it was not in the power of the Sheriff to determine what number would be requisite, I gave him and the Dean an order on a friend in Copenhagen, that they might obtain some by the next spring ships.

I now retraced my steps into Bardastrand's Syssel, and, crossing the Patrixford, I spent the 16th at Sandauks-

dale in the company of the Sheriff and Dean, and had every reason to be satisfied with the efforts that had been made for the circulation of the scriptures in this Syssel. Upwards of 200 copies had already been distributed, and nearly as many bespoke.

Returning to the place in Dale Syssel, where I had left my horses, I got a farmer to conduct me across the mountains to the opposite side of the Peninsula, where I advanced as far as Stad, in Steingrimsford, the residence of the Rev. H. Jonson, Dean of Sitade Syssel, to whom I had a letter from the Bishop. In this Clergyman it gave me pleasure to find the consistent Christian, and the zealous and indefatigable Minister. He entered with his whole soul into the Bible-plan, and hailed the present gift of God as ushering in the dawn of a glorious day for the Icelandic church. There was no end to our conversation on these, and similar topics; and as I was obliged to set off again the following day, the good man insisted on accompanying me to the Sysselmand's, which is at least two days' journey from Stad, in order to hear still more tidings of the progress of the gospel. The inhabitants of the Syssel are distinguished for their tenacious adherence to the manners of their ancestors; they discovered a great desire for reading religious books, yet are but scantily supplied; the scriptures in particular are very scarce; and the Dean assured me, that in no part of the island would copies be more welcome, or distributed with greater probability of success.

We arrived at the Sysselmand's on the 23d; the next day after maturing a plan with him and the Dean for the circulation of the Bibles to be sent the following year, I was obliged to bid these good people adieu; and prosecuted my journey southward, to the end of the Hrataford, where I procured a guide to conduct me across the desert in the interior; and, after a long and dreary ride, I again found myself in Borgarfjord, on the morning of the 26th. With the Dean of this Syssel, the Rev. Guðmund Jonson, who occupies Reykholt, the ancient residence of Snorre Sturlason, I spent about a day and a half, making the same arrangements with him that I had done with the rest of his brethren, in consequence of which he has since received the necessary quantity of copies.

By the divine blessing I was brought back again in safety to Reykjavik, on the 29th of June, just in time for the summer-market. Both Clergy and people began to flock in from different quarters; and, as it was a primary duty to see the poor supplied with the true riches, I was happy in prevailing on most of the Clergy to convey the copies intended for gratuitous distribution, free of all expense, to their respective parishes. For the sake of convenience, copies were placed in the shops for sale, and a considerable number purchased, both here and at the neighboring harbor of Hafnarfjord.

(To be continued.)

CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE HOTENTOTS.

[Continued from page 5.]

March 5.—We took a walk to Lewis-kraal, where those Hottentots formerly lived, who are now settled on our land. We found only one kraal there, inhabited by old captain Klapmus and three other Hottentots. We went to the spot, upon which, under a tree, we had held our first meeting with the heathen of this country, and remembered with great gratitude all the mercies the Lord had bestowed upon us and our people during the short year we have been here. We beg all our brethren and sisters, and friends every where, to join us in prayer, that He would here gather a congregation of such, who truly believe in Him and enjoy His salvation.

March 9 & 10.—We spoke individually with the baptized and candidates for baptism. Jacob Jaeger said: "I experience to this day the grace bestowed upon me at my baptism. I love Jesus more and more; and if I should perceive that I grow lukewarm, I will cry to Him to preserve me. How shall I speak my thanks, that he has suffered such an old evil-doer as I am to come higher to hear the Gospel, and to become acquainted with him as my Saviour, I had deserved nothing but the wrath of God and eternal misery; but Jesus is no respecter of persons. His pleasure is to save the worst and to make good all damage, else he would never have called me and my old wife to be the first baptized at the Gruenekloof." He added: "I have no more words;" got up, shook hands, and walked out of the room, much affected.

March 24.—Being the anniversary of our settling here at Gruenekloof, our hearts were filled with praise & thanksgiving that our God and Saviour has vouchsafed to own us as his servants, and caused the word of the cross, which we have preached here in weakness, to show its divine power, both in the awakening of the heathen to a sense of their

miserable and forlorn condition, and in comforting all those, who as sinners fled to the only Saviour, and appealed to the blood he shed for redemption.

March 25.—We entered into the Passion-week with fervent prayer to our Saviour, that he would cause our meditations on his bitter sufferings and death to be blessed both to us and the Hottentots. A large company attended all our meetings.

The celebration of the Passion-Week and Easter proved a means of great blessing to all who attended our meetings, and they expressed their thankfulness in an encouraging manner. It is manifest, that the Lord is kindling a fire in this place by means of the Gospel of a crucified Saviour.

April 23.—We had the great satisfaction to receive a visit from Mr. Van Rhynveld, now appointed president of justice, with Mr. V. Brandt. He expressed his regret at having arrived too late for Divine Service; but he wished yet to see our Hottentots. In about half an hour a pretty large party of them, and their children, assembled before our house, and we called them into the hall. They stood in rows; the men on one, and the women on the other side. One of the Missionaries first addressed them, telling them, that Mr. V. Rhynveld had not only been their friend, and conferred many favors upon them, but now was pleased to come hither to see them. He therefore desired that they would sing a verse or two, praying the Lord to bless him. The children immediately, and with cheerful voices, sung several verses, to the great satisfaction of our visitors, who expressed their surprise at the sweetness of their voices. Mr. V. Rhynveld hereupon addressed the people, to the following effect: "Almighty God has, by his servants in the government of this colony, cared well for you, and provided you with a safe dwelling place, where, if you are diligent, you may raise a sufficient maintenance for yourselves and families. God has likewise sent you teachers, to make you heathen acquainted with your Creator, and to point out to you the way of salvation. If you make good use of these advantages, I shall rejoice," &c.

When he had finished, the people all bowed respectfully, and expressed their thanks to Mr. V. Rhynveld for the good they had ever experienced from his good

"Having dismissed the riotous, we accompanied them into the settlement. Mr. V. R. looked at every Hottentot's garden, and went even into their houses; encouraged them to diligence and perseverance, and declared his satisfaction with the progress they had made in so short a time, by their work in their several grounds. Going into the house of the newly baptized Peter Seldon, and finding in it a considerable stock of garden-fruit laid by for winter consumption, such as pumpkins, onions, tobacco, besides the produce still standing, he desired his wife to tell her husband (who happened to be absent) "that Mr. V. R. considered her husband Peter as a diligent Hottentot." In the next street, he stepped into the house of Jacob Adams, where he found a still larger store of garden produce. Having expressed his great satisfaction, he took a roll of the tobacco, for which he paid Jacob, and said he should show this specimen of his diligence to Lord Caledon, in token of his having been at Gruenekloof, and an eyewitness of the improvements made by the Hottentots. Before he left us, he promised that he would send us some tools for the Hottentots' use. We accompanied them a little way out into the field, and took a cordial leave of these our friends and benefactors.

June 10.—Today, we had a blessed participation of the Lord's Supper, and felt the peace of our Saviour in a particular manner, while we meditated on His sufferings and death. But as it often happens, that joy and grief follow close upon each other, so likewise we were informed to-day, that after the evening services, it has been usual for a Hottentot living on our land, Klaas Trompeter, to go and entice women and children, and others, to come to his house and join in a dance, connected with the most superstitious and indecent practices. These abominations had existed for some time in darkness, till some of the school-children betrayed the party, by informing sister Schmitt of it. On examination, we found that not only most of the scholars had joined in it, but even several women and two of the candidates for baptism. We consulted together how we might, with the help of God, at once put a stop to such dangerous and seductive practices, and prayed the Lord, in this distressing case, to give us grace, firmness and success. On the following evening, brother Kohrhammer spoke on the words of St. Paul, 2 Cor. vi.

14, 15. He then declared their nocturnal dances, following immediately upon their assembling to hear the word of God, to be a work of the devil, by which that arch-enemy of souls seeks to destroy the good seed sown, that it may bring forth no fruit. We therefore in-

formed them, that we should keep neither schools nor meetings for instruction with people who showed such contempt of the word of life, till every one of those who had been present at these heathenish dances had come to us with confession and repentance.

On the following day, the children came running to brother and sister Schmitt with tears and lamentations, crying for forgiveness, promising never more to be guilty of such evil doings. The women came with the same professions of contrition to Brother and Sister Kohrhammer. This proved a seasonable opportunity of representing to them the abominably sinful and damnable nature of all their old heathenish superstitions and wanton practices, by which the devil leads them captive at his will, and to explain, how by these things the wrath of God comes upon all unbelievers. They were then permitted, by giving us their hands, solemnly to promise never to suffice themselves again to be seduced to these sinful ways.

Klaas Trompeter, perceiving that his diabolical traffic was at an end, came at length himself, fell on his knees, and entreated us to forgive him. However, to him we could not speak as to those who had fallen into his snares, but as to an agent of the devil and wicked seducer. But he persisted to cry aloud for mercy, till we told him, that if he would bring his violin, with which he had set his wicked dance a going, and deliver it up into our custody, in token of his never encouraging these practices again, we should consider about it. He was overjoyed at this glimpse of hope of forgiveness, got up, ran home, took the old violin down, and exclaimed, "Get out of the house, thou instrument of the devil!"

—and brought it immediately to us, to keep for him as long as we pleased. Having once more represented to him the atrociousness of his former practices, we added, that though we forgave him, yet that this would not clear him of his guilt; for he must seek forgiveness with God, who alone could save him from eternal punishment. Thus ended this distressing business; and we were glad to perceive, that a deep and salutary impression was made upon old and young; so that we trust, by the Lord's mercy, that his cause has gained, and the devil's has lost.

June 14.—We spoke individually with all the people living on our land. We will quote a few of

Peter said: "How shall I sufficiently thank the Lord, that He has had mercy on me. Formerly, wherever there was any riot or quarrel, there was I, delighting in all manner of wickedness; but now I am most happy, when I may be alone, and I am grieved when I see people engaged in such bad things."

Among the women were several who repeated their expressions of repentance, that they had suffered themselves to be prevailed upon to engage in the above-mentioned nocturnal sports, and their thankfulness for the kindness of their teachers, in explaining to them that it was a transgression which separated them from God. They again promised to pray the Lord to preserve them from such deviations.

Juliaana Salapper said: "I am sorry that my particular occupation, as a midwife, is the occasion of my being prevented from being much here. But when I am engaged at a farmer's, and there is a dance or other sports, I retire, and pray our Saviour to preserve me from all sin, as He knows my situation, and that I must mix with the people of the world, though I would rather stay at home and attend the meetings, and schools: I wish also to be baptized, but the Lord knows that I am yet very ignorant: yet I trust he will receive me in his own time."

July 8.—Five persons were added to the candidates for baptism, and two to the candidates for the communion, Susanna Jaeger and Louisa Voster. The former is an old woman, and speaks good Dutch. She may truly be said to live in communion with God, and to walk worthy of the Gospel. On this occasion, she expressed herself thus: "I say unto him, Thou art my Father in Heaven, and I am thy child on earth. Thou art infinitely rich, and I am exceedingly poor; give me what I stand in need of." She received the message of her being added to the candidates with great emotion.

July 10.—A man living on our land, called Africa Andres, who has been for some time wandering about and committing various irregularities, was at length guilty of a robbery on the public road. Brother Schmitt, therefore, gave notice to the congregation after the evening service, that he was no longer considered as an inhabitant of Gruenekloof, but his house and garden should be given to another.

We may make this general remark as to the events of the two last months, that we experienced almost daily alternate joy and grief; grief, in beholding several who came to us, confessed their sins, asked advice, and gave good hopes of their conversion, and then plunged again into sin and wickedness. For the devil

Journal of Congress.

SENATE, Jan. 10.

The Secretary of the Treasury, by letter, gave information, that the fund of the *Marine Hospitals* was more than equal to meet the demands upon it.

HOUSE, Jan 6—10.

Among the petitions presented were one by Mr. Mills, from Massachusetts, against opening the Post Offices and carrying the Mails on the Sabbath.

Mr. Ingham, the chairman of the post office committee, rose, and after having deprecated the suspicion of meaning the slightest disrespect to the petitioner or petitioners, expressed his hope that in consideration of the solemn decision which after a long and laborious debate, the house had come to in the last session, not to comply with a multitude of petitions to a similar object—and in consideration also, of a decision in the same spirit during the present session, the honorable gentleman would decline putting this petition upon the post office committee.

Mr. Mill's urged the propriety of giving the petition fair play, that it did not certainly follow, that because the petitions were rejected last session, they might not be complied with on this.

Mr. Ingham hoped, that at all events it would be referred to a select committee, and not the post office committee, which was agreed to.

Bounty Lands.

Contrary to a report of a Committee on the subject, the House, after discussion, voted, that it was expedient to amend the law on the subject of Bounty Lands, so as to authorize a devise of them.

Conduct of the U. S. Bank.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Directors of the U. S. Bank respecting an imputed evasion of the law respecting the specie payment of the second instalment, reported a statement of facts, and recommended the dismissal of the subject.

[The facts on the subject are contained in a letter to the Committee from the Hon. James L'oyd, one of the Bank Directors then in Washington, and from whom information had been requested. Mr. Lloyd stated, that the Resolution of the Bank which had given rise to inquiry, was adopted to insure, as in his opinion it would insure, the payment of the specie proportion of the second instalment to a greater extent than would otherwise have been made, and of course, forbidding the supposition that the Bank had done any thing to permit the evasion or postponement of the second specie payment.]

Reduction of the Army.

Mr. Cannon laid on the table the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is expedient to reduce the army of the United States.

The Claims' Law, &c.

After debate, the bill to amend the act to make payment for lost property, &c. was so amended (81 to 69) that the 9th section of the law should not be construed to extend to houses occupied by the military forces of the United States, except the same shall have been occupied by authority of an officer or agent of the United States, as a place of deposit for munitions of war.

On motion of Mr. Atherton the bill was amended to provide, that in all cases where the claim exceeded the amount of 200 dollars, the testimony should be taken before a committee for that purpose appointed.

After several unsuccessful attempts by Messrs. Wright, McLean and Pickens to amend the bill, it was read a third time and passed.

THE RECORDER.

BOSTON:

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1817.

Compensation Law.

On Wednesday last, this subject was again brought before Congress. After three or four hours debate before the house in committee of the whole, the question was put on filling the blank (for the future daily compensation of the members) with nine dollars, & negatived.

The question was then taken on filling the blank with eight dollars, & negatived, 60 to 98.

The question was then taken on filling the blank with six dollars (the old compensation) and decided in the affirmative—84 to 74.

So it was determined by the committee (subject to the revision of the House) that the compensation be reduced to its old rate of six dollars per day.

An amendment was then moved, requiring that there shall be deducted from the amount received by each member during the past and present sessions of Congress, all the amount over and above what he would have received under the old compensation of 6 dollars per day. Before this question was decided, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Loss of the U. S. brig Chippewa.—We are sorry to announce the loss of the above vessel, which was cast away on the 12th of December, at half past 7, P. M. on the northwest point of the Grand Caicos island. The Chippewa was bound from Boston to the Gulf of Mexico, on a cruise, and her loss was occasioned by running upon a reef not described in the charts. The officers and crew were all saved; they landed upon the island, whence they proceeded to Turks island, and chartered the schooner Tryall, of North-Carolina, to bring them home, and arrived at New-York, the 16th inst. in 15 days passage. Part of the sails and rigging of the Chippewa were saved.

A British ship from Portland, for Jamaica, laden with lumber, was cast away at the same place, and totally lost, crew saved. An American schooner was also driven ashore at the same time, but had been gotten off.—*Mer. Ad.*

Sudden Death.—We have just seen a letter from Philadelphia, in the postscript of which, written just as the mail was closing, are these words: "Mr. Dallas died this morning." No particulars have come to hand.—*Ev. Post.*

Fire in New-York.—On Wednesday night last about 11 o'clock, a fire broke out in the loft of the Brewery of T. Mounsey & Son, in Elizabeth-street, New-York. Besides the Brewery, the Melting-house, with an adjoining dwelling belonging to Andrew Morris; the Cordial Distillery of J. Dickson, and a Chocolate Manufactory of F. Shouman, were also laid in ashes.

Deaf and Dumb.—It has been ascertained that there are 47 persons of this description in the city of New-York, 34 of whom are between the ages of 6 and 18. A committee appointed to inquire into the subject, have recommended that a Deaf and Dumb Institution be immediately established in the city of N. York.

Funeral of Dr. DWIGHT.

The Rev. President Dwight, whose death we announced in our last, was in the 65th year of his age and in the 22d of his Presidency—His funeral was attended on Tuesday last. The order of procession was as follows:

Students of the Academic and Medical Colleges and Graduates.

Bearers.

Pall Bearers. CORPSE. Pall Bearers.

Relatives.

Trustees of the College.

Faculty of the Academic and Med. Colleges.

Clergy.

Civilians.

Citizens.

MINT of the United States.

The Director of the Mint of the United States has reported that during the year 1816, there were struck at the mint the following coins.

Silver, half dollars, 47,150

quarter dollars, 20,003

Copper, cents, 2,820,982

828,575 75

28,209 82

\$56,783 37

A new brick building has been erected for the accommodation of the mint, and a steam engine has been substituted for the horse-power hitherto employed.

The ordinary expenses of the mint, during the same year were as follows:

Salaries of officers and clerks 9,600 00

Wages of laborers 3,11 08

Incidental & contingent expenses 3,930 92

\$18,442 00

Ramsey's History of the U. S.

Mr. Carey, of Philadelphia, has in press the history of the United States, by Dr. DAVID RAMSEY, late of Charleston, (S. C.) This work will be published in a few days.

We understand that the Governor and Council have appointed Thursday 13th Feb. next, for the execution of Henry Phillips, under sentence of death, for the murder of Gaspar Denegri.

FOREIGN SUMMARY.**Of China.**

Rome, Oct. 12.—Two men in holy orders have arrived here from Canton, and give the particulars of the detainment of the Emperor of China, Kien Long, by his body guards, headed by a woman, on the 3d Sept. 1815. The conspiracy is stated to have originated in consequence of the persecution of the Christians in his dominions, by the Emperor. We know not what confidence is to be placed in these narratives.

From France.

Paris papers have been received in Charleton, S. C. to the 16th November.—Provisions were very high in France; the mob had broken open the stores at Paris, and distributed a quantity of grain; and several persons concerned in the riot had been apprehended, and among them a Police Officer. The harvest had failed throughout France, and the most serious apprehension was entertained. Rice was 12 dollars per bushel in Paris; and from eight to nine in Nantes.

Paris, Nov. 21.—The meeting which took place near London (Suffolk) for the purpose of petitioning the Prince Regent on the subject of the scarcity of corn, broke up without deciding upon any thing. After separating, gangs of them took various directions, and broke the windows of the bakers and butchers, from which they took all the bread and meat they could find. Several houses were assailed, particularly that of the *Morning Chronicle*. In this affair, the mob have evinced a disposition truly characteristic of revolutionary demagogues and levellers.

From Spanish America.

New-York, Jan. 14.—By the arrival, this morning, of the schooner Felicity, Capt. Smart, in twenty days from St. Thomas we learn, that Com. Bryan, having under his command one brig and two schooners, with Gen. Bolivar and his troops on board, sailed for Cumana, about the 4th of December. It was expected, that Gen. Bolivar, on his arrival on the Main, would be appointed Commander in Chief of the Patriot forces. An intelligent Spanish gentleman who had just arrived at St. Thomas from a visit to the Maine, stated that Sir Gregor M'Gregor, at the head of the Patriotic troops, had recently defeated the Royalists in several engagements.

From the Mediterranean.

In the Alexander which has arrived at New-York from Gibraltar, Mr. Ogden came bearer of despatches from Com. Chauncy.

Mr. Ogden informs, that the Commodore, in the Washington, 74, with the United States, 44, Capt. Shaw, were only waiting at Gibraltar for a wind to proceed to port Mahon to be joined there by the Jane, 44, Capt. Perry, the Constellation, 36, Capt. Crane, the sloops Erie, Capt. Gamble, and Ontario, Capt. Downes, the brig Spark, Capt. Nicholson, and sch. Hornet, Lt. Claxton. Mr. Shaler, our Consul General for the Barbary States was on board the Washington.

It was the Commodore's intention to proceed to Algiers, to insist upon the ratification of the treaty with the Dey, and to blockade his ports in case of his adhering to his determination of not ratifying it without the brig of war he demanded was given to him.

It was the general opinion that the Dey would persist in his demand, which would render a reinforcement of our squadron absolutely necessary, to carry the blockade rigidly into execution.

From the moment Lord Exmouth's squadron left Algiers, the Algerines commenced repairing their fortifications under the direction of able foreign engineers, which are nearly completed, and the defects which Lord Exmouth's attack pointed out, perfectly remedied. They have also erected furnaces to heat shot, so that the place is considered very strong. In fact, the Algerines already say, "Let Lord Exmouth come again if he dare!"

The Dey has purchased several vessels of war, and is actively employed in re-establishing his navy.

We also learn that the Spanish government were making great exertions to retrieve their affairs in South America, and that General O'Donnell had arrived at Port St. Marys, with a part of the troops (about 5000 men) destined to compose a strong expedition to Buenos Ayres, from which the most flattering results to the royal cause, were expected.

From the impoverished state of the Treasury, and the deficiency of military supplies, some months must probably elapse before this expedition can be fitted out.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Treaties concluded between the United States and the following Indian tribes, have been ratified and confirmed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and will speedily be officially published:

With the Weas and Kickapoos, concluded June 4th, 1816.

With the Chippewas and Pottawatomies, concluded 4th August, 1816.

With a portion of the Winnebagoes, concluded June 3d, 1816.

With the Sioux of the Leaf, concluded May 13th, 1816.

With the Chickasaws, concluded September 20th, 1816.

With the Cherokee, concluded October 4th, 1816.

With the Choctaws, concluded October 24th, 1816.

ORDAINED,

In Wendell, on the 1st inst. Rev. HENRY WILBER. The services were as follows: Introductory prayer by Rev. Mr. Bailey of Pelham; Sermon by Rev. Dr. Dana of Newburyport, from 1st Cor. 2, xiii. Consecrating prayer by Rev. Mr. Blodget of Greenwich; charge by Rev. Mr. Estabrooks of Athol; right hand of Fellowship, by Rev. Mr. Gates of Montague, and concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Harding of New Salem. Greenfield paper.

DEATHS.

In Portland, Mrs. Betsey, wife of Mr. Andrew Ross, aged 24—Miss Sarah Darling, of Gorham, aged 17.

In Wintrop, Mathew Hayward, Esq. 78. In Medfield, Ezekiel Plinton, Esq. an officer in the revolutionary army.

In Milton, Mr. John Bent, aged 71.

In Wilmington, Samuel Hopkins, Esq. 59.

In Yarmouth, Capt. Timothy Baker, an old respectable inhabitant of that town.

In Pownal, 1st inst. the Hon. Josiah Wright, Chief Judge of Bennington County Court. His death was occasioned by a fall from his chair, as he was proceeding to Bennington to attend the late session of that Court.

In Westford, Capt. Nathan Davis.

In Framingham, 3d inst. Mrs. Isabella Bent, aged 51, wife of Deacon Matthias Bent.

In Boxford, widow Rebecca Stiles, aged 72—She was remarkable for her industry, having woven, upon a moderate calculation, as many yards of Cloth as will measure with the extreme parts of the County of Essex.

In Newburyport, widow Hannah Bartlett, 81; Mrs. Sarah Dole, 67.

In Marbhead, Mrs. Ruth Barker, aged 99. Her Husband, Capt. John Barker, was lost at sea in 1767. She was the mother of eleven children, five of whom had families. Her living descendants are 6 children, 23 grand children, and 48 great grand children, the eldest of whom is of age.

In Hingham, Elijah Lincoln, aged 87.

In Charlestown, Miss Tabitha Angier, 37.—Mr. Benjamin Wait, 35.

In Roxbury, William Brown, youngest child of Elisha Forbes, aged 7 months.

In Boston, Mr. Edward Blake, merchant, aged 46—Mr. Abel Robinson, aged 48—Mr. John K. Low, aged 21—Miss Susan Gibbs, youngest daughter of the late George G. Esq. of Newport.—Mr. Asahel Goodnow, aged 70—Mrs. Elizabeth Clauses, aged 37, wife of Mr. William C.—of an apoplexy, Capt. Joseph Low aged 51.

At Fort Warren, of Pluriteck fever, Capt. Armstrong Irvine, of the United States Regiment of Light Artillery, son of the late Brigadier General I. of Pennsylvania.

MARY S. SMITH,
No. 48, Purchase-Street, opposite Liverpool-Wharf.

RESPECTFULLY informs her friends and the public, that she has for sale, a general Assortment of English & India Goods, among which are—a few pieces of Nanking Crapes, first quality; fine Waterloo prints, 3½ cts per yard; Cambrics, Muslins, Hoses, Bombazets, Flannels; British and other Shirts; Vestings, Ribbons, & a variety of other Fancy Articles—*Cheap for Cash*.

Jan. 21.

American Shirtings, Cheap.

JOSIAH DOW, up stairs, Cornhill-square, has this day received one case Cotton Shirtings, 25 cents per yard. Not long since the same quality was sold at 40 cents per yard.

Jan. 21.

Copartnership Formed.

JOHN PRATT informs his friends and the public he has formed a connexion in business with **NATHAN SAWYER**, where the Book Binding business will be carried on as usual, in all its various branches at No. 4, Congress-street, opposite the Exchange-Coffe-House.

Miscellany.

COMPENSATION LAW.

REPORT

Of the Committee appointed on the 4th Dec. to inquire into the expediency of repealing or modifying the law passed at the last session, changing the mode of compensation to the members of Congress.—December 18, 1816. Read and committed to a Committee of the whole House, on the second Monday in January.

The committee, to whom was referred the consideration of the expediency of repealing or modifying the law past at the last session, relative to the compensation of members of Congress, ask leave to REPORT....

The power, vested in Congress by the constitution, of providing for the pay of its own members, is doubtless, a delicate trust; and it might have been apprehended, as well from the nature of the subject, as from former experience, that the most judicious exercise of that trust would not be exempt from some degree of public animadversion. The committee, however, cannot perceive, either in the increase of compensation provided by the late act, or in the mode of making that compensation, cause of excitement or alarm, adequate to the effects which are understood to have been produced. The addition which this law has made to the public expenditure is not considerable; and if it had been created by other measures of government, would not, probably, of itself, have been thought worthy of great attention. And the change in the mode of compensation, even if it be not attended with real and manifest advantages, does not still appear to be wrong, so clearly, and in such dangerous measure, as to furnish grounds for any high degree of public inquietude.

The committee, therefore, cannot but be of opinion, that the law in question has not been considered without some mixture of misapprehension of its principles and objects, and that a more accurate knowledge of its provisions, and more mature reflection on its design and tendency, if they should not end in a conviction of its usefulness, would yet result in a different and far more moderate estimate of its probable evils. It would not become the committee to claim any infallibility for the body of which they are members, nor to take it for granted, that every law which it may pass, must, necessarily, be a wise and wholesome act of legislation. Human errors and imperfections find their way into all bodies. And there is, doubtless, existing in the judgment of the community, a power under whose revision this and other acts of government must and ought to pass. It, however, on a review of this subject, the House should still be of opinion, that the law in question, or some equivalent provision, has become essentially necessary for the useful exercise of the powers of government, and for the safety, security, and honor of the people themselves, its members may still hope, that in not hastily departing from it, they will be justified by the enlightened sense and generous sentiments of the nation. The abandonment of a measure, which, according to their most conscientious conviction, is intimately connected with the general good, would be no means of obtaining favor with the American people.

If, in passing the law in question, the House of Representatives discharged any portion of its duty, it acted upon general and public principles, with an entire disregard to the convenience of its own members, any further than their convenience was supposed to be connected with the public service. It treated the question, not as one between them and the public, but as exclusively of public and national concern. It regarded it as a subject of general policy, by which the nation, and the nation only, was to be affected; as much so, as any other act of legislation whatever. Any imputation, so gross as to impeach its conduct in this essential particular, a feeling of self-respect must compel the House to pass over in silence, and its members must rely on their known character, as members of the government, and as citizens of the community, to disprove it. The House would not presume to judge whether its services, in the various and important matters upon which it has acted, have deserved any consideration or respect from the public; but for those services, such as they are, it has not sought, nor would accept any reward, which could be measured up to it in a mere pecuniary compensation. And while the members of the House would certainly not think of claiming any merit for passing the law in question, any more than for the discharge of what they thought their duty in any other case, the committee do not see that they have any cause for taking humiliation upon themselves, on account of having passed an act, which they believed would be essentially useful to the country, but which they must have foreseen would be exposed itself, and might expose its authors, to misapprehension and misrepresentation of all sorts. Holding offices in the immediate gift of the people, of short duration, and at a time when the people were soon to exercise, in most districts, their ac-

customed privilege of a new election, if these offices had been objects of their regard, and if they had permitted personal considerations to influence their conduct, it is obvious, that all such considerations pointed to a course different from that which they pursued. They must have known, that no measure could be more easily misconstrued and perverted to the purposes of obloquy and reproach. The committee cannot yet believe that a faithful discharge of duty, in the face of these probable consequences, is to be reckoned among dangerous political errors.

At the commencement of this government, it was of course among its first measures to fix, by law, agreeably to the requisition of the constitution, the pay of members of Congress. In the old Congress under the confederation, the members were paid not out of the national treasury, but by the States which they represented. The rates of compensation were different in different States: some States paid to its delegates eight dollars a day; others six; others less; and one State at least paid them by an annual provision, of six hundred pounds sterling. It was natural to recur to these precedents, when the subject was taken up by the first Congress, under this constitution. Taking as a just and obvious standard by which to regulate the amount of compensation, the average of the rates which had been paid by the different States, to their delegates in the old Congress, it was found that such average amounted to somewhat more than six dollars a day. The compensation was accordingly fixed at six dollars a day, by the law of 1789.

As it was foreseen, that the depreciation of money, or the increased expense of living might render this provision inadequate, the law was limited in its duration, in order that it might be considered and altered, if necessary, at a future period. The subject was again brought before Congress, in 1796, by the expiration of the former law. On this occasion, as the committee have learned, and indeed as some of them remember, there was much diversity of opinion in the House of Representatives; some members wished, then, to change the mode from a daily sum to an annual allowance; others preferred to retain the existing mode, but to increase the sum; and a committee of the House, reported in favor of increasing the daily pay to eight dollars, assigning for reason, a proportionate increase in the price of all commodities, and the expense of living, since the passage of the first act. Those who opposed this augmentation, admitted it would be reasonable, if the price of commodities and the expense of living should keep up; but they hoped the rise would be temporary, and that money would soon resume, in relation to the expense of living, its former value. The proposition to increase the pay was lost by one or two votes only, and a law passed establishing the former rate.

The state of things existing in the government and in the country, from 1796, to the close of the late war, furnish obvious reasons to account for the circumstance, that during that period, no attempt was made to raise the pay of members of Congress. In the meantime, the seat of government had been transferred to the City of Washington, and the expense of living, instead of returning to its former rate as was expected by some, has gone on increasing progressively, until money, in relation to the means of life, does not retain more than half its former value. In other words, if six dollars a day was no more than a reasonable provision, in the cities of Philadelphia, and New-York, eight-and-twenty years ago, twelve dollars would not be more than a reasonable and equal provision in the City of Washington, at the present time. Forty years ago, as has been stated above, some of the States paid their delegates in Congress, eight dollars a day; and yet it never was supposed, during the revolution or afterwards, that the people of the United States had made unreasonable or exorbitant provision for their public agents. But unless the early history of the country, was marked by great extravagance in this particular, the rate of six dollars a day, fixed by the law of the first Congress, was no more than a moderate and necessary allowance at that time, because it was no more than the average of what all the States had found it necessary to pay to their respective delegates, during the revolution.

The only question then, is, whether there has been in truth such a change in the country, in the value of money and the expense of living, as to render that provision which was no more than sufficient in 1789, insufficient in 1816. It is a truth, plain to all whose experience or information enables them to judge, that so great has been the change in the foregoing particulars, which eight-and-twenty years have produced, that it is not incorrect to estimate the expenditures necessarily attached to a seat in Congress at twice their former amount. This change has not been confined to the condition of members of Congress. It has extended all over the country, and as well the national government as every State government has been obliged to provide for it in a proportionate increase in the salaries of their public officers.

Nor is it at all true, that the inconvenience of attending a session of Congress is always in proportion to its length. The season of the year in which the session is held, may be as material as its duration. The length of the journey to the seat of government is the same in both cases; and both cases require an entire breaking off of all private engagements, and an exclusive de-

votion to public business. It may be added, also, that while compensation was computed by the day, as the sessions would naturally be longest in times of war, the greatest expense would fall on the treasury, when it could bear it with the least convenience. Thinking, however, that the measure of augmenting the compensation was itself a necessary one, and that the form, if not the best, was a fair subject of experiment, the House did not forbear to adopt it, from difference of opinion in regard to the manner. It passed the law in its present form, in the hope that good would result from the change of mode, and with the knowledge, that if such should not be the consequence, the former mode could be easily, and at any time, again adopted.

There now remain some other topics connected with this subject, which the committee would submit to the consideration of the House.

Of all the powers with which the people have invested the government, that of legislation is undoubtedly the chief. In addition to its own important ordinary duties, the legislature is the only power which can create other powers. Departments, with all their duties and offices, with all their movements, emanate from the Legislature alone. Over the most numerous branch of the Legislature, therefore, the people have retained the power of frequent elections; and with this branch alone, they have trusted the original exercise of the right of taxation. The members of the House of Representatives are the special delegates and agents of the people in this high trust. They, and they alone, proceed immediately from the suffrage of the people. They, and they alone, can touch the main spring of the public prosperity. They are elected to be the guardians of the public rights and liberties. Can the people, then, have any greater or clearer interest, than that the seats of these, their representatives, should be honorable and independent stations, in order that they may have the power of filling them with able and independent men? Is it according to the principles of our government, that the legislative office should sink, in character and importance, below any office, even the highest in the gift of the executive? Or can any thing be more unpropitious to the success of a free representative government, than that the representatives of the people should estimate any thing higher than their own seats, or should find inducements to look to any other favor than the favor of their constituents?

This enhancement of other compensations is not adverted to for the purpose of showing that Congress has been as favorable to others as to itself, or that it has made itself the latest object of its own bounty. In neither case has it supposed itself to be bestowing bounty or conferring favor. It has sought only to make such provisions as the public interest demanded. But the circumstance is referred to as furnishing evidence of the necessity of the late law, by showing that a similar necessity had been found to exist in other cases; and that by that law, Congress had done nothing for its own members which executive recommendation, and its own opinion of propriety, with the general concurrence of public sentiment, had not compelled it to do at an earlier period, and in ample measure, for other officers of government in a far greater proportion.

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The State legislatures, from the same necessity of complying with the change of circumstances, have made corresponding changes in the salaries of the officers of their governments; and it may not be inapplicable to recent occurrences to remark, that the members of these legislatures have, in almost every State, increased, in many doubled, in some trebled, their own pay, during the period in which the compensation to members of Congress has remained at its original rate. As far also, as the committee can learn, this increase of pay to members of State legislatures has, in every instance, taken place in the same session in which it was voted.

Objections have been made to the manner of compensation introduced by the law of the last session. It has been said to have created salaries. If, by this, it is intended that the law allows to every member a defined and certain sum, without any deduction for absence or omission of duty, it is not a correct representation. Such deductions are provided for by the law, as completely as under the former mode. It has already been observed, that a difference of opinion has long existed on this point; and it still exists. When the law of 1796 was passed, there were those who thought it advisable to change the mode then in practice, and to adopt the example, of an annual allowance, which had been formerly set by a very respectable State. There have been, and still are, those who are not without fear, that an augmentation of the daily pay, if it should not in fact tend, in some cases, to the protraction of the session, might produce an evil of equal magnitude, by subjecting the Legislature to such an impatience.

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